

United States Department of the Interior



National Park Service Gulf Islands National Seashore 1801 Gulf Breeze Parkway Gulf Breeze, Florida 32563

June 27, 2011

A3815 (GUIS-S)

Mr. Douglas Hunt Gulf Coast Refuge Complex Refuge Ranger 7200 Crane Lane Gautier, MS 39553

Dear Mr. Hunt:

Thank you for the opportunity to express Gulf Islands National Seashore's support to expand the acquisition boundary at Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge in southeastern Mississippi and southwestern Alabama. The park understands the importance of preserving valuable habitat for endangered and threatened species, migratory birds, and other inter-jurisdictional trust species.

The National Park Service is a key player in a nationwide system of parks, historic places and open space initiatives. Here at Gulf Islands, we have been given the honor of protecting and conserving some of the Gulf coast's most pristine habitat on our barrier islands and intertidal marsh lands. We are confident this expansion of the refuge boundary will not only benefit the public's multi-use opportunities, but also protect critical habitats for fish and wildlife.

We value your partnership and look forward to working with you to conserve and protect our natural and cultural resources along the Gulf Coast through land protection and stewardship programs.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Brown Superintendent

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